GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5231
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2007
PRODUCTION OF RAIDA
Moghe Shri Krishna Murari

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is dependent on imports for its supply of edible oil; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government for encouraging the production and consumption of indigenously produced `Raida` to meet the shortage of edible oil in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): Since there has been a continuous excess of demand over domestic supply of edible oils, the Government, with a view to making this item of mass consumption easily available to consumers at reasonable prices, has allowed import of edible vegetable oils, except coconut oil, under Open General Licence (OGL).

(b): The steps taken to increase the production of oilseeds/edible oils in the country include enhanced incentives to the farmers through fixation of Minimum Support Price (MSP), implementation of Centrally Sponsored `Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize` (ISOPOM) including Raida (Mustard) in 14 major oilseeds growing States, and development of better seeds and production technologies by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).